GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

| Site | | **Ecolab & BAQs site** | | | | **Department** | **CoLES/GEES** | | | | | **Version / Ref No.** | | | **2.0** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | | **Research at fixed location** | | | | **Activity Description** | **Research**  **5 staff for research work and core support in Ecolab and BAQs air monitoring station on Elms Road site** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Assessor** | | **Eimear Orgill** | | | | **Assessment Date** | **07/07/2020** | | | | **Date of Assessment Review** | **18/09/2020 & 13/1/2021** | | | | | | |
| **Academic / Manager Name** | | **Richard Marguerie de Rotrou** | | | | **Academic / Manager Signature** | **Richard Marguerie de Rotrou** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hazard Assessment | | | | | Control Assessment | | | | | | | | | | | Actions | | |
| Hazard Category | Hazards Identified | | Who might be harmed?  Staff  Students  Contractors  Others | How might people be harmed? | Existing Control Measures | | Initial Risk Rating | | | Are these adequate?  Yes/No | Changes to/ Additional Controls | | Residual Risk Rating | | | Owner | Due  Date | Action Complete |
| S | L | R |  | S | L | R |
|  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Psychological well being | | Staff | Anxiety and stress caused by concerns around returning to work and studies on Campus | Regular communication is in place (individual and group) via Communication from College Board and HoS via emails to all members of the School from HoS and from the Health and Safety Committee, via virtual School meetings of all staff, and via virtual group or one to one meetings between line managers/PIs to ensure staff and students are not ill-informed about returning to work/study safely.  Advice is shared with staff members and students and they have been fully briefed and kept up to date with current advice on staying protected through the University’s lines of communications (i.e. line managers, Internal Comms) and shared with staff via virtual *team meeting, one to one meetings, emails from health and safety committees* and the University’s Coronavirus FAQs [click here](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx):  Risk assessment shared and an electronic copy is available on the <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/phased-campus-reopening-building-risk-assessments.aspx>  New workplace/controls put in place to reduce risk of exposure to COVID 19 are documented in procedures and policies and disseminated to employees through Line Managers and PI’s. These include:   * ***Social distancing: General guidance for staff and students*** * ***Social distancing: Buildings adaptations guidance*** * ***Social distancing: Building checklist*** * [***On-line induction materials for returning to campus***](https://canvas.bham.ac.uk/enroll/XA9YAJ): combination of the guidance and videos. * ***Return to Campus COVID-19: Building Risk Assessment***   Line managers are aware of how big changes to working arrangements may cause additional work-related stress and affect their employees’ mental health and wellbeing.  Risk Assessments will be shared with staff via email as part of their induction and made available to staff like all our risk assessments through the shared drive. | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Psychological well being | | Staff | Anxiety and stress caused by concerns around returning to work on Campus | Staff who are in vulnerable groups themselves or caring for others are encouraged to contact their line manager/PIs to discuss their support needs through college email communications and inductions.  Concerns on workload issues or support needs are escalated to line manager.  Staff/students who *should not* under any circumstance work on campus have been identified and managers/supervisors have discussed alternative arrangements with them to ensure that they do not return to work on campus. Staff who *should not* under any circumstance work on campus include:   * Any member of staff who has been through a return to work on campus assessment and has been advised by Occupational Health or a medical professional (including a midwife in respect of pregnancy) not to travel to work on campus. * Staff in the clinically extremely vulnerable category (those shielding) for whom current guidance is that they should not to travel to work, even where their work cannot be undertaken remotely.   Any risk assessments for new or expectant mothers reviewed and revised to reflect new working arrangements  Reasonable adjustments made, including those needed for PEEPs especially in relation to who will assist with their evacuation in an emergency, to avoid staff that require them including disabled workers being put at a disadvantage.  Managers/PIs hold regular virtual informal discussions with their team and look at ways to reduce causes of stress.  Employees who have concerns about either continuing to work on Campus or working from home/remotely have discussed these with their line manager or supervisor and where necessary an occupational health referral has been made using the Occupational Health Referral for Covid-19 Assessment Form.  Employees are made aware of supportive mechanisms available to them (e.g. counselling, occupational health, HR, etc) through line managers, internal communications and University webpages:  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx>  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/index.aspx>  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/workhealth/index.aspx> | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Virus transmission in the workplace | | Staff/Contractors | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking. | ***Specific individual worker/student risk assessment*** undertaken for those who have a self-declared health condition which could increase their risk profile.  ***Social distancing: Ecolab/BAQs Building checklist***has been completed to identify the control measures to consider reducing the risk of workplace infections.  Staff to work using the mixed model of site and home based as agreed with line manager, in line with Government and University guidance.  Managers/supervisors ensure staff and students with any form of illness do not attend work/campus until the illness has been verified as not being Covid-19.  Managers/supervisors keep track of when staff and students can return to work/ Campus after the symptom free period.  Regular access to the Lateral Flow Device screening tests provided to staff and students who are coming onto campus.  The University’s [***On-line induction materials for returning to campus***](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/essential-resources-and-checklist.aspx) combination of the guidance and videos have been provided and completed for all staff working in University buildings*.*  To help with consistency and adherence to building specific measures such as access routes, occupancy limits etc. staff from other departments accessing the building (such as cleaning and Estates) have received a building specific induction including information and on site induction.  Schedules for essential services and contractor visits revised to reduce interaction and overlap between people and building managers and occupants informed of when the visits will take place and which services are being maintained  Un-essential trips within buildings and sites prevented and discouraged  Posters are displayed on interior walls that encourage staying home when sick, cough and sneeze etiquette.  Specific risk assessments have been completed for each laboratory with detailed local instructions and emailed to all lab users as part of the induction. They are stored on LES shared drive.  The University’s [***On-line induction materials for returning to campus***](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/essential-resources-and-checklist.aspx) combination of the guidance and videos have been provided and completed for all staff returning to work in University buildings*.*  To help with consistency and adherence to building specific measures such as access routes, occupancy limits etc. staff from other departments accessing the building (such as cleaning and Estates) have received a building specific induction including information and inductions from the laboratory manager.  Posters are displayed on the interior walls that encourage staying home when sick, cough and sneeze etiquette.  Managers keep track of when staff can return to work after the symptom free period.  Details of who will be on the site on any one day, and the main location in which they work, will be provided by PIs to the College Ops Manager at least one week in advance.  Security updated on a weekly basis.  Un-essential trips across sites discouraged and reduced.  Schedules for essential services and contractor visits revised to reduce interaction and overlap between people e.g. only contractors allowed in lab space when work is essential and required.  All staff will be required to complete a three stage induction, consisting of a Canvas course, powerpoint presentation and reading of local laboratory risk assessements at University, School, and local (e.g. laboratory) level before return to work is permitted. Records of induction will be held centrally by the college.  Lines of supervision will be made clear to all staff and contact details displayed prominently for people with responsibility for areas who are working off-campus.  All staff who wish to attend Ecolab/BAQs are welcome to help with consistency and adherence to building specific measures such as access routes, occupancy limits etc. Any staff who access the sites will be asked to attend a site specific induction in the same way as all staff who will be entering the site. It is essential Estates and HAS only send staff who have received this induction and have records  Work has been arranged so that staff are able to maintain the government guidelines for social distancing based on our industry which are included in the ***Social distancing: Ecolab/BAQs Building checklist***  (The latest Guidance on these measures can be found by clicking the following link [Social Distancing Guidelines](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/social-distancing-in-the-workplace-during-coronavirus-covid-19-sector-guidance#shops-running-a-pick-up-or-delivery-service)).  People who are arrive unexpectedly to work will be refused entry. Laboratory manager to be informed immediately.  Face coverings are not PPE and are not required to be worn in the workplace where 2m social distancing can be maintained.  Adequate training has been made on what PPE is required (i.e. gloves, masks, aprons, Filtering Face Pieces (P3), goggles, the correct donning/doffing of PPE and face fit testing. Government advice is followed:  <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>  PHE quick guides for correct donning and doffing of PPE for [non-AGPs.](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures) as well as for[AGPs](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-aerosol-generating-procedures). 19 have been utilised for example in best practice for putting on and taking off (donning and doffing). Staff will be reminded that it is standard practice not to wear lab coats outside the lab unless specifically necessary | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental  Environmental  Environmental  Environmental | Virus transmission in the workplace due to lack of social distancing  Virus transmission in the workplace due to lack of social distancing  Virus transmission in the workplace due to lack of social distancing  Virus transmission in the workplace due to lack of social distancing | | Staff | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking.  Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking.  Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking.  Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking. | Only essential work authorised and approved by the Government and University is permitted in University buildings.  Workplace routines changed to ensure room/building capacity calculated to maintain at least 2m social distancing is not exceeded including   * Fixed teams or adjusted booking processes in use to reduce the number of people in a lab at the same time to avoid overcrowding.   Signage are used for maintaining two metres distance throughout the building/workplace.  Staff activities are segregated to promote 2 metres distance including:   * Capacity limits of one person at a time have been set for common facility areas (e.g. welfare areas etc.). * Staff encouraged to remain on-site including bringing their own lunch and, when not possible, maintaining social distancing while off-site. * Where available safe outside areas used for breaks.   Staff activities are segregated to promote 2 metres distance including:   * Areas of work marked out with floor tape to ensure adequate social distancing is in place. Visual management aids in place to remind people of the need for social distancing, * Headcount capacity to ensure social distances standards have been achieved have been set and displayed in shared laboratories.   Welfare areas use a one out one in policy. All users are encouraged to wash their hands prior to using equipment (kettle) and to wash their hand after use. Additional signage for the correct method for handwashing displayed  To help contain clusters and outbreaks and assist the University with any requests for data by the NHS Test and Trace service a temporary record of shift patterns and teams and attendance in the building is kept for 21 days. NHS Test and Trace QR code is displayed in the building for visitors and staff to scan using the NHS Covid-19 app.  Social gathering amongst employees are not permitted whilst at work including meetings where alternative arrangements have been provided e.g. virtual school and team meetings. Use of building restricted to labs only.  provided normally via virtual meetings.  Visits from people outside of the site are managed via remote connection/working where this is an option. Where this is not an option and it is essential visitor arrangements have been revised to ensure social distancing and hygiene at all times. These measures are monitored by the local supervising staff member and where necessary concerns fed back to the third party manager.  Managers perform frequent evaluation against social distances controls via regular walkarounds. Staff are reminded on a daily basis by signage of the importance of social distancing both in the workplace and outside of it.  Only essential research workers/core support staff in lab. Working core hours 8am-6pm.  Where the 2m social distancing guidelines cannot be followed in full in relation to a particular activity e.g. movement of a heavy piece of equipment, consideration has been given to whether that activity needs to continue, and, if so, all the mitigating actions possible to reduce the risk of transmission between staff have been included in a task specific risk assessment and are being taken. Mitigating actions include:   * Further increasing the frequency of hand washing and provision of hand sanitiser and surface cleaning. * Keeping the activity time involved as short as possible. * Using back-to-back or side-to-side working (rather than face-to-face) whenever possible. * Reducing the number of people each person has contact with by using ‘fixed teams or partnering’ (so each person works with only a few others). * Re-engineering the technical activity. * Improving ventilation by re-organising the indoor space to optimise the ventilation available. * Re-organising pedestrian flows. * PPE consisting of face masks and/or a clear visor that covers the face, and provides a barrier between the wearer and others, provided for staff working in close proximity to people and in particular a person’s face, mouth and nose, for an extended period of time (the majority of the working day). Re-usable visors are cleaned and sanitised regularly using normal cleaning products.   Only essential work authorised and approved by the Government and University is permitted in University buildings. Where the 2m social distancing guidelines cannot be followed in full in relation to a particular essential activity, consideration has been given to whether that activity needs to continue, and, if so, all the mitigating actions possible to reduce the risk of transmission between staff have been included in a task specific risk assessment e.g. movement of gas cylinders and are being taken. Mitigating actions include:   * Further increasing the frequency of hand washing, hand sanitisation and surface cleaning. * Keeping the activity time involved as short as possible. * Using back-to-back or side-to-side working (rather than face-to-face) whenever possible. * Reducing the number of people each person has contact with by using ‘fixed teams or partnering’ (so each person works with only a few others). * Improving ventilation by re-organising the indoor space to optimise the ventilation available. * Re-organising pedestrian flows * No working in close proximity to people and in particular a person’s face, mouth and nose, for an extended period of time (the majority of the working day) is permitted unless the work is essential such as in clinical settings, like a hospital, or other close contact roles for example, Occupational Health clinical services where there is an activity specific risk assessment and PPE is provided for individuals undertaking this work.   Individuals (including staff, students, visitors and contractors), unless exempt, are required to wear face coverings, inside all University buildings at all times except for in single occupancy rooms. Information provided in the University and local communications and local inductions and signs displayed informing people of the mandatory requirement to wear a face covering within the building.  Individuals, unless exempt, are required to wear face coverings, in all University learning environments, where the use of the face covering does not impact teaching and learning. Information provided in the University and local communications and signs displayed informing people of the mandatory requirement to wear a face covering within the building.Large gatherings have been cancelled or postponed  Individuals have been reminded through regular email comms and online meetings of how to use face coverings safely including the following:   * wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on, and before and after removing it * when wearing a face covering, avoid touching your face or face covering, as you could contaminate them with germs from your hands * change your face covering if it becomes damp or if you’ve touched it * continue to wash your hands regularly * change and wash your face covering daily * if the material is washable, wash in line with manufacturer’s instructions. If it’s not washable, dispose of it carefully in your usual waste * practise social distancing wherever possible   When wearing a face covering you should:   * wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on * avoid wearing on your neck or forehead * avoid touching the part of the face covering in contact with your mouth and nose, as it could be contaminated with the virus * change the face covering if it becomes damp or if you’ve touched it * avoid taking it off and putting it back on a lot in quick succession (for example, when leaving and entering buildings)   When removing a face covering:   * wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before removing * only handle the straps, ties or clips * do not give it to someone else to use * if single-use, dispose of it carefully in a residual waste bin and do not recycle * if reusable, wash it in line with manufacturer’s instructions at the highest temperature appropriate for the fabric * wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser once removed   Adequate training has been provided on what PPE is required i.e. gloves, masks, aprons, Filtering Face Pieces (P3), goggles, the correct donning/doffing of PPE and face fit testing. Government advice is followed:  <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>  PPE provided for individuals pre-Covid-19 is still worn when working in laboratories.  The taking of PPE home is not permitted. | | 3 | 3 | 9 | Yes | . | | 3 | 2 | 6 | HoS | 17/07/2020 |  |
| Biological  Biological | Suspected case of COVID-19  Suspected case of COVID-19 | | Staff | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19.  Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | Response plan in place in the event a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 and communicated and includes:   * If a person becomes unwell in the workplace with suspected COVID-19, they will be sent home in accordance to the University guidance. If any students appear unwell or make comment or complain to staff members that they are feeling unwell they will be asked to leave the building with immediate effect and to follow the University and Government advice. * Managers will follow the NHS Test and Trace workplace guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-workplace-guidance> * The area will be cleaned in accordance with the specific Government [guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings) * Provision and monitoring of adequate supplies of cleaning materials are in place. * Team briefed in building induction on actions to be taken in the event of someone being suspected of having COVID-19. * Staff must tell their line manager if they develop symptoms. Absence will be managed in accordance to the University guidance provided. * Employees to follow the Government advice: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> * Line managers will maintain regular contact with staff members during this time and monitor for signs of symptoms in the remaining workforce and keep Senior Managers informed of the situation whilst following the Government’s guidance for contact tracing: contact with co-workers: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-workplace-guidance> * If an individual tests positive for COVID-19 this will be managed in accordance with the University’s [Test, Trace and Protect Process](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/test-and-trace.aspx) * If multiple cases of coronavirus appear in a workplace, an outbreak control team from either the local authority or Public Health England will, if necessary, be assigned to help the University manage the outbreak. The University will seek advice from the local authority in the first instance. * Staff will be told to isolate because they:   + have coronavirus symptoms and are awaiting a test result   + have tested positive for coronavirus   + are a member of the same household as someone who has symptoms or has tested positive for coronavirus   + have been in close recent contact with someone who has tested positive and received a notification to self-isolate from NHS test and trace. * Line managers hold discussions with their staff to identify those considered in ‘at risk’ groups - which include those who are 70 or over, have a long-term condition, are pregnant or have a weakened immune system, or are living/caring for someone in these groups and will ensure additional measures are put in place to protect them including working from home. * Staff have been encouraged to download the government COVID-19 contract tracing app. | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Someone entering the workplace with COVID-19 | | Staff/Contractors | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | If a person becomes unwell in a University workplace with suspected COVID-19, they will be sent home in accordance to their company’s and University’s guidance. University managers will follow the NHS Test and Trace workplace guidance for any University staff that may have come into contact with them: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-workplace-guidance>  Companies who regularly attend or work in the building requested to provide their health and safety policy/arrangements / or RAMS (risk assessment and method statement) regarding COVID-19.  Anybody visiting site will be informed that they are not to enter if they’re experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or should be self-isolating under the government Guidelines. | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental  Environment  Environmental | Virus transmission in the workplace  Virus transmission in the workplace  Virus transmission in the workplace | | Staff | Contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19 and which subsequently transmits this to another person e.g. surfaces, any inanimate objects & touch points including work surfaces, work equipment, door handles, banisters, chair arms and floors.  Contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19 and which subsequently transmits this to another person e.g. surfaces, any inanimate objects & touch points including work surfaces, work equipment, door handles, banisters, chair arms and floors. | Individuals have been instructed during building induction and are regularly reminded by signage to clean their hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds and the importance of proper drying in accordance with the NHS Guidance:  <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>  Individuals are reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues – Follow: “Catch it, Bin it, Kill it” and to avoid touching face, eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands. Posters are displayed around the interior workplace.  Soap and water and hand sanitiser are provided in the laboratory workplace and adequate supplies are maintained and are placed at the entrance to theEcolab / BAQs building where they will be seen. All laboratories are equipped with hand wash basins and soap dispensers at or near the entrance in Ecolab and additional hand sanitizers in BAQS have been placed in the building.  There is limited or restricted use of high-touch items and equipment, for example, printers or whiteboards.  Objects and surfaces that are touched regularly are cleaned frequently by lab users, such as door handles and keyboards, and making sure there are adequate disposal arrangements.  help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) individuals are reminded of the public health advice:  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>  A review of the cleaning regime for the building/area to ensure controls are in place to keep surfaces clean and free of contamination has been undertaken,, cleaning products and disposable cloths will be placed in the foyer and laboratories and be made available to all occupants and everyone has been briefed through the induction on the importance of keeping surfaces and work equipment clean.  Sharing of equipment is restricted where possible (and cleaned / disinfected before and after use.  A detailed list of equipment that is required to be cleaned is developed in each specific risk assessment, including the type of equipment it is, how it is to be cleaned or disinfected, and product availability including that there is a COSSH assessment in place for its use in this way  There are cleaning procedures for goods and merchandise entering the site. Greater handwashing and handwashing facilities have been introduced for workers handling goods and merchandise and hand sanitiser provided where this is not practical. Non-business deliveries stopped, for example, personal deliveries to workers.  COVID-19 cleaning products used have a current valid chemical risk assessment in place and are used in accordance with all prescribed risk controls and monitoring requirements. COSHH forms can be found on shared LES COSHH folder. They are stored so that they are readily available to all users and are labelled according to the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling (GHS). (See location specific chemical risk assessments for cleaning products used within the area).  Everyone is encouraged to keep personal items clean including washing spectacles with soap and water, clean phones, keyboards and shared machinery handles etc. before after and during work.  Lab clothing and equipment such as goggles washed on-site rather than by individual staff members at home.  All university staff are encouraged to avoid direct personal contact with others i.e. shaking hands etc. | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational  Organisational | Exposure to Existing Hazards  Exposure to Existing Hazards | | Staff | Increased risk of harm due to controls included in existing risk assessments & safety arrangements affected by COVID-19 measures  Increased risk of harm due to controls included in existing risk assessments & safety arrangements affected by COVID-19 measures | All relevant pre-existing (non COVID) risk assessments including lone working assessments and procedures have been reviewed to take into account the impacts of social distancing and other COVID counter measures.  PPE related risk assessments have been reviewed to ensure that PPE is provided on an individual basis. Usage is monitored to ensure suitable level of stock of certain PPE such as face masks etc. during this time due to global shortages. Individuals maintain their own equipment in a sterile condition. Storage has been reviewed to provide individual storage arrangements. The taking of PPE home is not permitted.  Emergency Procedures reviewed and revised including:   * **Communication**: people have been made aware in the building induction and laboratory risk assessments that in an emergency, for example, an accident or chemical spill or fire, people do not have to stay 2m apart if it would be unsafe. * **Fire procedures:** number and details of nominated fire warden(s) in place, fire muster point confirmed and PEEP requirements defined including who will assist with their evacuation in an emergency. * **First Aid:** First aid needs assessment reviewed to take into account the impact of any Local or National Government requirements and any new Guidelines issued by the University or HSE, and first aid information including the location of first aid kits and first aider contact information up to date * **Hygiene:** Washing facilities with soap/gel available (see Cleaning below) in the Ecolab. People involved in the provision of assistance to others have been informed to pay particular attention to sanitation measures immediately afterwards including washing hands.   Business continuity and disaster recovery plans updated based on COVID-19 implications including Contingency plan in place for possible switch back to lockdown.  Safety critical roles will remain in place to aid safe operation. In the event of safety critical roles not being available then a dynamic risk assessment shall be performed to ensure measures are introduced to mitigate risk (for example, another area within the building or campus could have a critical role such as first aider that could cover as a temporary solution).  Life-saving rules, will continue to be governed, enforced and communicated during COVID-19 in particular “speaking up” if they witness any unsafe behaviours, conditions or symptoms related to COVID-19.Anyone who have any concerns should discuss them in the first instance with their PI or line manager, but a system using the generic email address [gees-safety@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:gees-safety@contacts.bham.ac.uk) is in place to let any worker raise any issues in confidence | | 3 | 3 | 9 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Inbound & Outbound Goods including Post | | Staff | Exposure to contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | Logistics for the deliveries to the unit so that social distancing can be maintained at all times has been considered and include:   * Pick-up and drop-off collection points, procedures, signage and markings revised. * Unnecessary contact at delivery bay has been minimised e.g. non-contact deliveries where the nature of the product allows for use of electronic pre-booking. * Methods to reduce frequency of deliveries in place - ordering larger quantities less often. * Where possible and safe, single workers load or unload vehicles or if not possible the same pairs of people are used for loads where more than one is needed. * Electronic paperwork is used where possible, and procedures reviewed to enable safe exchange of paper copies where needed, for example, required transport documents. * Delivery and receipt confirmation made contactless and physical contact when handing goods over to the customer has been avoided. * Where possible all deliveries are stripped of all packaging (which is disposed of). * Strict hand washing procedure in place after handling all deliveries. * Where possible deliveries to remain isolated and untouched for a minimum of 48 hours. | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Virus transmission outside of the workplace | | Staff | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | On the outside / approach to the building there is signage to warn all prior to entering this building social distancing is in place (keep 2m apart).  There is signage advising individuals to wash their hands regularly and not to touch their face.  Building access control is used during busy spells in the building i.e. one out one in by laboratory manager.  Controlled access and egress is monitored to ensure it is followed. | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Travelling to work | | Staff | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19. | Workers told to avoid public transport where applicable and using alternatives e.g. cycling, walking to work etc.  Where staff are not able to avoid public transport they do so in accordance with Government and University Guidance:  <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>  https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mechanical | Machinery & Equipment | | Staff | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | Equipment and surfaces that are touched regularly will be frequently cleaned by the facility users and disinfected with 70% ethanol solution. Including prior to and after use by each user and will be applied for 1 minute following WHO guidance provided.  Sterilising chemicals and cloths are provided in the laboratory area to clean machines and equipment prior to the commencement of work and upon completion. If machines and equipment are shared, sterilising will be carried out between operations. | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Ventilation | | Staff | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19. | All ventilation has been serviced as required. All filters have been changed as required. Ventilation systems will be maintained in line with planned and preventative maintenance schedules.  General considerations reflected on during reopening of the buildings in relation to the Ventilation and fresh air to occupied spaces. Core strategy based on ‘CIBSE Covid-19 Ventilation Guidance’, REHVA guidance, other industry and HSE guidance. <https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/equipment-and-machinery/air-conditioning-and-ventilation.htm>  The guidance is constantly under review by the University’s Estates as SARS-CoV2 transmission routes become more clearly defined, and any updated recommendations assessed and implemented where relevant to University systems. CIBSE Covid-19 Ventilation Guidance  <https://www.cibse.org/knowledge/knowledge-items/detail?id=a0q3Y00000HsaFtQAJ>  Ventilation systems are monitored in most cases by building management systems that will raise a fault alarm to Estates automatically.  Building users are encouraged where possible to ensure windows are open. | | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Risk Assessment Guidance**

Risk Scoring System

The scoring system is provided as a tool to help structure thinking about assessments and to provide a framework for identifying which are the most serious risks and why.

|  | **Consequence / Severity score (severity levels) and examples of descriptors** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **Domains** | **Negligible** | **Minor** | **Moderate** | **Major** | **Catastrophic** |
| **Impact on the safety of staff, students or public (physical / psychological harm)** | Minimal injury not requiring first aid or requiring no/minimal intervention or treatment.  No time off work | Minor injury or illness, first aid treatment needed or requiring minor intervention.  Requiring time off work for <3 days | Moderate injury requiring professional intervention  Requiring time off work for 4-14 days  RIDDOR / MHRA / agency reportable incident | Major injury leading to long-term incapacity/ disability (loss of limb)  Requiring time off work for >14 days | Incident leading to death  Multiple permanent injuries or irreversible health effects |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Likelihood score** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **Frequency** | **Rare** | **Unlikely** | **Possible** | **Likely** | **Almost certain** |
| **Broad descriptor** | This will probably never happen/occur | Do not expect it to happen/occur but it is possible it may do so | Might happen or occur occasionally | Will probably happen/occur but it is not a persisting issue | Will undoubtedly happen/occur, possibly frequently |
| **Time-framed descriptor** | Not expected to occur  for years | Expected to occur  at least annually | Expected to occur at  least monthly | Expected to occur at least weekly | Expected to occur at least daily |
| **Probability**  Will it happen or not? | <0.1 per cent | 0.1–1 per cent | 1.1–10 per cent | 11–50 per cent | >50 per cent |

The overall ***level of risk*** is then calculated by multiplying the two scores together.

**Risk Level = Consequence / Severity x Likelihood (C x L)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Likelihood** | | | | |
| **Likelihood score** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
|  | **Rare** | **Unlikely** | **Possible** | **Likely** | **Almost certain** |
| **5 Catastrophic** | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 |
| **4 Major** | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 |
| **3 Moderate** | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
| **2 Minor** | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 |
| **1 Negligible** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

The Initial Risk Rating is the level of risk before control measures have been applied or with current control measures in place.

The Residual Risk is the level of risk after further control measures are put in place.